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Other agents serving Culpeper: ANR-Tim Mize (Fauquier), Brad Jarvis & Adam Downing (Madison), Courtney Wesner (Orange), Kenner Love (Rappahannock); FCS—Clare Lillard (Orange)

The Culpeper Extension Office is located at 101 S. West Street, Culpeper, VA 22701. (Corner of West and Davis) Telephone: (540)727-3435



If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in any of the activities offered by Virginia Cooperative Extension, Culpeper Office, please contact our office at (540) 727-3435 during business hours of 8am and 5pm to discuss accommodations

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES (FCS)

Becky Gartner, Extension Agent, FCS

ServSafe Manager Certification Course

Participants in this course will complete the requirements for a Food Protection Manager Certification of the National Restaurant Association. The course is designed for managers of food service operations, food and beverage managers, catering managers, chefs and dietary managers. After completing the classroom work, participants will take a national certification exam. The cost for the course is \$160 per person.

The 2020 class schedule is:

April 20 & 27 – Taylor Education Administration Complex, Orange

June 15 & 22 – Culpeper

October 19 & 26 – Madison Extension Office

Cooking for Crowds

Does your church or non-profit organization have food events for its members or sell food as a fundraising event? “Cooking for Crowds” is a workshop that will teach food safety and how your organization can ensure the safe handling of food. Learn how to handle food during cooking and serving and the food safety standards for temporary events. Members of non-profit organizations, churches, athletic associations and fire departments are encouraged to attend.

The workshop will be held, April 21, from 6 to 8 pm, at the Culpeper Baptist Church which is located at 318 S. West Street, Culpeper. The cost is \$15 for 1 to 5 individuals from the same organization. The registration deadline is April 14.

For more information or to register for ServSafe or Cooking for Crowds, contact the Culpeper County Extension Office at 540-727-3435 or Becky Gartner at rebes13@vt.edu.



Intermediate Beekeeping Course

An Intermediate Beekeeping Course will be held at The Carver Center, 9432 James Madison Highway, Rapidan, starting in April. The course is designed to answer questions of current beekeepers and provide in depth knowledge of beekeeping. Time will be spent in the classroom and doing hands-on work with hives and equipment.

The sessions will be held from 9 am – 1 pm on the following Saturdays: April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12

The cost for the course is \$20 per class/household or \$100 per household for the entire 6 sessions. The course is sponsored by the George Washington Carver Agricultural Research Center. Registration deadline for the April session is April 3.

For more information and to register contact Roger Williams at rogerw@nordlink.com



4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Cristy Mosley, Extension Agent, 4-H
JoAnna Kilby, Program Assistant, 4-H

CULPEPER 4-H CAMPS 2020

Culpeper 4-H Day Camp 2020

WHO: Any youth age 6-12 as of January 1, 2020

WHEN: June 1-5, 2020

TIME: 9:00am – 4:30pm daily

WHERE: The Carver Center, 9432 N James Madison Hwy, Rapidan, VA 22733

COST: \$140 per participant (Fees include activity supplies, a camp t-shirt, and a daily snack. Lunch should be brought from home.)
A \$25 non-refundable deposit is required upon registration.

Participants will enjoy a selection of daily classes and recreation. Classes offered in the past have included painting, cooking, nature/gardening, animal science, woodcraft, tie dye, model rocketry, STEM, etc.



Culpeper-Shenandoah-Rappahannock-Spotsylvania 4-H Overnight Camp 2020



Camp is an opportunity to make new friends, learn new skills, and have fun in a safe environment surrounded by caring adults. Each morning, campers participate in three classes of their choosing including archery, canoeing, swimming, air rifle, performing arts, cooking, nature studies,

ropes courses, arts & crafts, fishing, multimedia, tie dye, science, and more. Afternoons are occupied with recreation such as swimming, sports, games and other group activities. Special evening programs include a pool party, carnival, talent show, and a dance/game night. Each evening campers attend a campfire ceremony.

Meals are served in a cafeteria style dining hall and snacks are provided. Campers are housed in dormitory style rooms with bunk beds. Choice of one roommate is guaranteed
Camp is for boys and girls ages 9-13 (as of 09-30-20) and Teens (ages 13-18 as of 01-01-20) may apply to be Camp Counselors or Counselors in Training. Camp is located at the Northern Virginia 4-H Educational Center in Front Royal, VA.
DATE: June 21 – 25, 2020

COST: \$315 and includes: lodging, 12 meals, a T-shirt, snacks, and all activities. A limited amount of financial assistance, based on financial need, is available.

CAMP REGISTRATION PROCESS: Complete the attached Registration Form, be sure to check the camp you are registering for and return it with a \$25 or \$50 deposit depending on which camp, to secure your spot as soon as possible (balance for Day camp due May 15 / balance for Overnight camp due by June 1). You'll then be sent a packet with additional details, directions to the camp, and more forms to complete, including one for selection of classes. Note: Registrations are accepted until camp is filled, however, classes are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. So, register early and return your packet of forms quickly to avoid disappointment.

CAMP REFUND POLICY: Thirty dollars (\$30) is a non-refundable processing fee. All refund requests must be in writing. Otherwise, a full refund (minus the \$30) will be given until 3 weeks prior to camp. Refunds for payments made to this office may take 30+ days to receive.

CAMP PAYMENTS: Payment is accepted in the form of cash, checks and money orders – payable to Treasurer, Virginia Tech. Please note that there is a \$50 fee on all returned checks. For credit card payments please call our office for more information.

CAMP REGISTRATION FORM — Check camp you are registering for:
Culpeper 4-H Day Camp _____ Culpeper-S-R-S 4-H Overnight Camp _____

Camper Name (as you want it on your name tag)_____

Name(s) of Parent/Guardian: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Gender: _____ Birth Date: _____ Age: _____

Are you already enrolled in 4-H for 2019-2020? _____ If yes, in which club? _____

Have you attended 4-H Camp before? _____ If yes, when? _____

Choice of one roommate: _____ (Overnight Camp ONLY)

Do you wish to apply for financial assistance? Yes _____ No _____

Deposit required with registration form.

T-Shirt Size (please circle): Youth: S M L XL Adult S M X 2X

Return this form with deposit of \$25 for DAY CAMP _____ or \$50 for OVERNIGHT CAMP _____

Made payable to Treasurer, Virginia Tech – Culpeper

and send to: VCE - Culpeper County, 101 S. West Street, Culpeper, VA 22701

Culpeper-Madison-Rappahannock Farm Show Homemaker's Department

Even though summer is still a few months away, with all of the cold weather why not start now to work on creating those wonderful homemaker's entries for the CMR Farm Show! There is no better time to take advantage of having to stay in where it is warm, and let those creative juices flow. Below is a list of departments and classes in each department in which items can be entered during the CMR Farm Show. Ages 5-Adult (19 + years of age) may enter items in the Homemaker's Department and ages 9-18 are eligible to win premiums. So start making those fantastic flower arrangement, baskets, soaps, quilts and more! We can't wait to see them at CMR Farm Show!

Art & Crafts Department	Flower Department	Photography Department
Baked Goods Department	Garden & Crops Department	Scrapbook Department
Decorated Baked Goods	Hobbies Department	Sewing & Textiles Department
Canned goods Department	Needlecraft Department	Woodcraft Department
Fine Arts Department		

Culpeper 4-H has a wide variety of programs including clubs, workshops, and camps that are open to all youth in the county ages 5-18. Our clubs are FREE to join and the cost of our workshops and camps are kept as low as possible. If you are interested in joining this 100+ year old program focused on youth development, please contact our office to learn how at (540) 727-3435 or email Cristy Mosley, Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development (cmosley1@vt.edu) or JoAnna Kilby, Program Assistant, 4-H Youth Development (jlclark@vt.edu)

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL
RESOURCES (ANR)

Carl Stafford, Senior Extension Agent, ANR
Invasive Ornamentals Found

Ornamental grasses (Fountain Grass, Chinese Silver Grass) and woody perennials (Callery Pear, Autumn Olive) escape their home yard plantings, move across and along highways and onto nearby farm land. These plants set up colonies and spread to compete with desirable plant species on our land.

The interstate and intra state movement of invasive plants, insects and diseases harmful to other plants and animals is an area regulated by the states and the federal government. While some animal diseases have very strict rules (Brucellosis), the nursery industry rules seem to be permissive in the planting of ornamental grasses and woodies capable of and becoming, invasive.

Ask Robert Hitt about his problem with Fountain Grass (Pennisetum), a clumping perennial with seed head similar to foxtail, but different. The attractive head and its coloring (reddish and buff), its clumping nature, has homeowners and landscapers installing it, a lot. Planted frequently enough, it is easy to find in neighborhoods, rural and urban -



Fountain Grass growing on roadside

if it would only stay there. Hitt says his problem came from across the road from a well-meaning neighbor's yard. Still doing battle on his hay and pasture ground, he finds it along roadways and in farm fields in three counties and more.

Lee County Agent, Amy Fannon, shares an image of a steep hillside pasture completely overtaken by Chinese Silver Grass (Miscanthus). A tall, warm season, bunching, perennial, ornamental, miscanthus is easily found in our area. Of concern would be the invasion down the Hebron Valley Road by this plant from its starting point in the village of Haywood. Over several years, it has traveled one half mile in to one of the top agricultural areas of Madison. Given more time, it will be at the gate to the fertile open fields of the Hebron Valley. While the terrain is different there as compared to Lee County, the tell of success for miscanthus is its colonization of land along its southern route of progress in Madison. It does, and it will, take over land if unchecked.

Callery Pear too is found in Culpeper County and beyond. The Frontier Culture Museum, Staunton can tell us a thing or two about it – a bulldozer will be needed to open up fields there as tractor tires are no match for its thorns. The unintended offspring of Bradford Pear, this thorny, woody, perennial, invasive will take over if you do not maintain fields and it will show its ugly head even if you do.

Watch land let go a year or two as it is taken over by this and the Autumn Olive, another woody perennial first planted to feed wildlife, as was Multi Flora Rose, the so-called living fence. Good intentions again but now the food source produced becomes the chief route of invasion – birds spread it. All of these invasive plants can be found by searching for their common name. Learn to identify them and act to keep them in check. Within a mile of my own home, all are found, escaped from home landscapes of the well-meaning who are not at risk from these invasives and do not carry the burden of keeping them in check.

HORTICULTURE

Ashley Appling, Associate Extension Agent, ANR-Horticulture
Vegetable Crop Rotation and Cover Crops

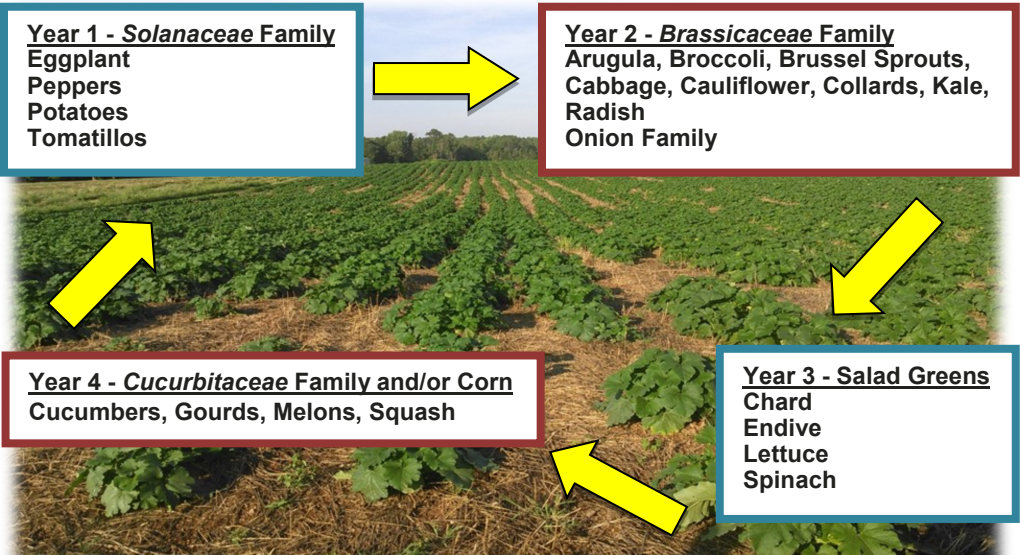
Cover crops can become an important part of the home vegetable garden, when used in conjunction with rotating different plant families. Crop rotation is the practice of planting vegetable families in different parts of the garden each year. Having the crops rotate on a four-year rotation is best if time and space allow.

Using cover crops and crop rotation can help starve out unwanted insects and diseases. Most pests are host specific and can be reduced or eliminated without access to their host plant. Soil erosion can also be slowed or stopped by using cover crops. Before the growing season starts, cover crops can be tilled into the soil, eventually decomposing. This leads to increased soil organic matter which decreases the need for supplemental fertilizer. This saves the homeowner money and helps decrease fertilizer runoff into streams and rivers.

There are both cool-season and warm season cover crops. Cool-season cover crops can be sown in late August through early October. A combination of oats, rye (not turfgrass rye), or wheat can be planted with clover or winter peas. Clover and winter peas have the added benefit of being legumes. Legumes are able to take nitrogen from the air and make it available in the soil for plants to use. The recommended amount of seed to sow in the garden is three to four pounds of oats, rye, or wheat with a quarter pound of clover or winter peas per 1,000 square feet. A summer cover crop is good for allowing the garden area to rest and it can help fight disease as mentioned earlier. Buckwheat, cowpeas, millet, sorghum, or soybeans would be options to consider during the summer months. These crops are usually planted in late April through May. Suggested rates are between one to five pounds per 1,000 square feet. The cover crop can be tilled into the soil at the end of the summer growing season and help build up the soil organic matter for vegetable plantings in the years to come.

The garden bed should be tilled and raked to prepare a good seed bed. After sowing the seed, maintain a consistent moisture in the soil until the seeds have germinated and become established. No supplemental irrigation should be needed during the growing season.

Four-Year Crop Rotation Plan:



Upcoming Announcements and Events:

Grow Your Own Vegetable Gardening Series: April 15, April 22, and April 29, 2020 (5:00 pm to 6:00 pm).

Carver Center, 9433 James Madison Highway, Rapidan, VA 22733. For more information, please contact VCE - Culpeper (540) 727-3435 Ext. 0 or email ashappling@vt.edu

Landscape Pest and Problem Walks 2020: June 17, July 16, and August 13 (10:00 am to 12:00 pm). James Madison's Montpelier, 11350 Constitution Highway, Montpelier Station, VA 22957. Topics will include but are not limited to: insect identification techniques, common shrub and tree disease identification, and descriptions of common abiotic conditions. For more information, please contact VCE - Culpeper (540) 727-3435 Ext. 0 or email ashappling@vt.edu

Woody Plant Identification 2020: September 4, September 11, September 18, and September 25 (10:00 am to 12:00 pm). James Madison's Montpelier, 11350 Constitution Highway, Montpelier Station, VA 22957. For more information, please contact VCE - Culpeper (540) 727-3435 Ext. 0, or email ashappling@vt.edu

Lock Guns 4 Loved Ones

The Culpeper Health Department hopes to increase the number of residents that secure their firearms at home through a program called “Lock Guns 4 Loved Ones”.

According to the American Public Health Association (APHA), gun violence is a leading cause of premature death in the United States. Guns kill more than 38,000 and injure approximately 85,000 each year (APHA).

In Virginia, approximately two-thirds of gun-related deaths are suicides. In the Rappahannock-Rapidan Health District (RRHD, which includes Culpeper County), between 2013 and 2017, 80% of firearm deaths were due to suicide. Men are 5.7 times more likely to be the victim of gun-related suicide than females, and the risk increases with age. White men and Native American men have the highest rates of gun-related suicide, and the rates are higher in rural, sparsely populated areas.

Most gun violence does not involve a mass shooting, yet 214,000 children at 216 schools experienced gun violence between 1999 and 2018. In cases where the source of the gun could be determined, more than 80% of shooters brought them from their own homes or obtained them from friends or relatives.

Gun violence affects young people in our community. In May 2017, a 4-year-old Orange County male was able to access a gun and shoot himself. In August 2018, a 13-year-old male faced criminal charges after making plans to shoot “deserving people” at his middle school. Also in August 2018, 4 young men were caught speeding in Culpeper County with two firearms in the vehicle; the incident ended with one young man taking his own life.

The American Academy of Pediatrics reports that parents are less likely to lock guns when their children become teenagers. Yet adolescents, with their often impulsive behavior, are most at risk of suicide by gun - especially if the gun is kept loaded. One in three Americans with children under 18 years old at home have a gun in their household (Pew Research Center), and more than 40% have at least one unlocked.

Safe firearm storage is one way to help prevent unintentional injury and reduce suicide risk by preventing access to weapons in the home. The American Academy of Pediatrics supports trigger locks as a best practice and says that safe storage and preventing access to guns may reduce injury by as much as 70%.

Thanks to a generous grant from the PATH Foundation, RRHD has purchased universal trigger locks that work on rifles, handguns, and shotguns to block trigger access. Once secured, these locks block trigger access to prevent anyone who does not know the combination from operating the weapon. The locks are available at the Culpeper County Health Department - free of charge, no questions asked.

Preventing gun violence makes communities safer for everyone. If you own a firearm, please keep it secure. **Lock Guns 4 Loved Ones.**

Safety

*Isn't just
for pins*



**Lock Guns
4 Loved Ones**

The disAbility Resource Center
of the Rappahannock, Inc.



409 Progress Street
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
540-373-2559 (voice), 540-5890
(CAPTEL), 540-373-8126 (Fax)
www.cildrc.org
drc@cildrc.org
Kim Lett, klett@cildrc.org
or 540-373-2559

The disAbility Resource Center in Fredericksburg, a Center for Independent Living (CIL), provides information, referral, and advocacy as part of its core services. The Center has and will continue to provide these services not only in the Fredericksburg region but also in the Culpeper, Madison, Orange and Lower Rappahannock counties. If you are a person with a disability, a family member, or a professional, and would like information on state services or have an issue to discuss, contact Cheryl Lloyd at 540-373-2559 or clloyd@cildr.org.

Cheryl is also gathering the names of individuals and organizations interested in forming a CIL in Culpeper. In addition to advocacy and information and referral, CILs also provide peer counseling, independent living skills training, and transition (from school to adult life and from nursing home to one's own home.) CILs are community based and led by the individuals they serve. Fifty percent of the staff and board should be people with disabilities. CILs can also provide other services based on the needs of the community they are in, for example, youth services, transportation training, employment supports, and more. For more information and to show your interest and support, contact Cheryl.

The dRC has joined forces with the Alzheimer's Association to sponsor a free series of trainings. The topics for the next several months are: Healthy Mind, Healthy Body on April 1; Medicaid Waivers and Long-Term Care Services on May 6; and the 10 Warning Signs of Dementia, on June 3, 2020. Presenters are Lori Myers, Regional Director of the Alzheimer's Association, lmeyers@alz.org, and Tennie Gratz, a trained Medicaid Long Term Care Specialist with the dRC, tgratz@cildrc.org. Sessions are the first Wednesday of the month from 10:30 to 12:30 at the dRC, 409 Progress St., Fredericksburg. Please register at <https://qualityconnections-drc.eventbrite.com>.

Volunteers are needed as the dRC plans its spring and fall events. If you like event planning, particularly Halloween events, contact Kim Lett at klett@cildrc.org.



Rappahannock Rapidan Health District
98 Alexandria Pike Suite 42, Warrenton, VA 20186
Office: 540-316-6280 Fax: 540-347-6373
www.rrhd.org



Have Questions Concerning your Existing Business?
Starting a new business?

The Small Business Development Center at Culpeper offers free business consulting, affordable training courses, personal referrals to local resources, guidance, insights, and connections to help your business succeed. The office is located within the Culpeper County Economic Development Center at 803 South Main Street. All services given at the SBDC at Culpeper are at no cost and are strictly confidential.

Whether you already own a business or are planning to start one, our workshops and free consultations can help you achieve your goals.

You will find assistance across a broad range of topics including:

- Accounting & Recordkeeping
 - Business Plan Review
 - Business Planning
 - Cash Flow Management
 - Demographic Reports
 - Export Assistance
 - Financial Sources
 - Government Procurement
- Licensing & Regulation Information
 - Marketing
 - Personnel Management
 - QuickBooks Assistance
 - Social Media
 - Start-up Assistance
 - SWAM and Eva Certification
 - Business Tax Questions

Contact: David C. Reardon
Business Counselor

Email: dreardon@lfsbdc.org
The SBDC at Culpeper

803 South Main St. | Culpeper, VA 22701
PHONE: 540-727-0638
www.lfsbdc.org

The SBDC at Culpeper is funded in part by the U.S. Small Business Administration and Culpeper County and is hosted by Lord Fairfax Community College.

NEED A RIDE?

Did you know there are many easy to use and affordable Public Transportation options available for everyone to use right here in Culpeper?



Culpeper Trolleys

Monday thru Friday :
7:00 AM—6:20 PM
Saturdays :
8:20 AM —2:20 PM.

Need more information about public transportation in Culpeper?
Call (540) 825-2456
We strive to serve our entire community.

Disability?

Schedule the Town of Culpeper
ADA bus
24-hours in advance for a
door-to-door ride.



The Culpeper County Express

Bus picks you up at your door anywhere in Culpeper County and drops you off in the Town of Culpeper. From there, hop on the Trolley. When you are done, the Express Bus will bring you back home.

Need to travel between Orange and Culpeper?

The Orange-Culpeper Connector Service runs
Monday thru Friday from 7:30 AM—5:00 PM.

Need to travel to between Culpeper and Charlottesville?

Try the new Foothills Express Route.

We can get you where you need to go. Come take a ride with us!



AGING TOGETHER IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION CREATED OVER 20 YEARS AGO IN RESPONSE TO THE STEADILY INCREASING DEMOGRAPHIC OF OLDER ADULTS IN OUR FIVE-COUNTY REGION. IT MAINTAINS AND SUPPORTS A BROAD PARTNERSHIP OF ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS WHO COLLABORATE TO EVOLVE THE FUNDAMENTAL VISION OF AGING TOGETHER, WHICH IS AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES THAT ACTIVELY ENGAGE, VALUE AND SUPPORT OLDER ADULTS.



As a founding member of Aging Together, the agency celebrated **Sallie Morgan** at it’s Annual Meeting at Prince Michel Winery in November 2019. Sallie Morgan has served as Executive Director of the Mental Health Association of Fauquier since 2011, prior to which she served as Director of Community Support Services for Rappahannock Rapidan Community Services for 35 years, supervising mental health programs as well as intellectual disability and aging services. While working for RRCS, she founded the Area Agency on Aging for the region, as well as the community-wide partnership, Aging Together, for which she served as Board Chair from 2004 until 2019.

15 YEARS OF AGING TOGETHER SUCCESS, AND STILL GOING!

Sallie Morgan, along with other board members and staff, have built Aging Together as a reliable support agency for the aging population, their families and caregivers. Among the many accomplishments over the last 15 years are some of these highlights:

- **Community Vision and Planning** with projects like **Community Conversations** in all 5 counties, as well as the annual **“Five Over Fifty”** Celebration of 1 outstanding older citizen in each county. Additionally models like the Village Concept, where communities prioritize aging-in-place, were initialized and are part of ongoing strategic goals.
- **Transportation Resources** were instigated with the funding and coordination of the initial concept for the Foothills Area Mobility Services and the **FAMS One Call Center**. The Agency continues to develop and expand **volunteer driver** programs in the region.
- **Community Education and Resource Information** programs were developed which include the highly anticipated Annual **Art of Aging Expo** in the fall, and workshops on Dementia Care by the nationally renowned expert **Teepa Snow**. The Aging Together website was built, and local resource information formulated into guides that could reach all communities. Additional educational programs that are ongoing include topics such as end of life planning, mental health and aging, elder abuse prevention training for first responders and bank tellers, elder law training for local attorneys, fraud prevention and scam education, and technical and computer training.
- **Caregiver Support Systems** were introduced with ongoing programs such as annual **Caregiver Training Programs** for families, and the development of support groups and caregiver resources sections in libraries.
- **Programs to Combat Social Isolation** were created to give seniors whose social circles have diminished the ability to get help or just have fun. The **“Senior Prom”** has become an annual spring event for the entire region, and **Home Repair programs** help those who aren’t able to perform their own home maintenance.
- **Health and Wellness Resources** include a continuous growing collaboration of service providers and resources to assist with knowledge about subjects such as chronic disease self-management, fall prevention, medication safety, local walking programs, among others that are always in the planning.



In July, 2019, **Ellen Phipps** joined the Aging Together team as Executive Director. Ellen brings over 30 years of experience working with older adults, most recently at the Alzheimer’s Association where she served as Vice President for programs and services, and also, as Interim Executive Director. Ellen holds an undergraduate degree in therapeutic recreation and a Master’s of Gerontology from Virginia Commonwealth University. She is author of the book, Connections: Engagement in Life for Persons with Dementia, A Complete Activities Guide.

Culpeper Wellness Foundation: Healthy Living Grants

The awarding of Healthy Living Grants is an annual rite of spring for the Culpeper Wellness Foundation. Now in its sixth year, the program has thus far directed more than \$440,000 to supporting health and wellness related programs and activities in the Foundation's service area of Culpeper, Madison and Orange counties.

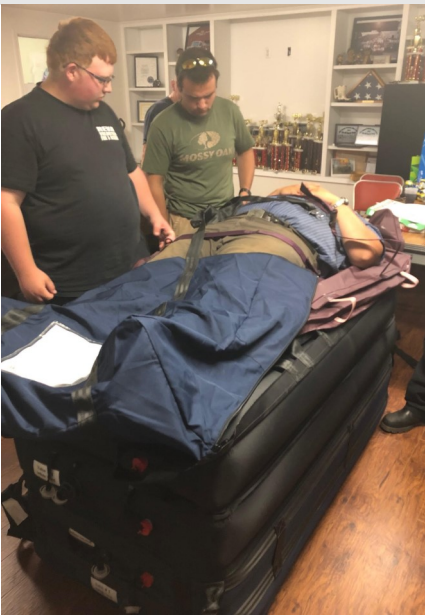
Non-profits interested in applying in 2020 should visit culpeperwellnessfoundation.org/grants/ to review the grant guidelines and initiate their application process. Applications may be submitted in March and April, and the review process concludes in May after the Foundation's community grants advisory committee reviews all applications received.

In 2019 Healthy Living Grants were awarded to 13 area organizations whose efforts represent a broad range of important community support services in Culpeper, Madison and Orange counties:

- Aging Together – \$10,000** – To maintain transportation services for vulnerable older adults
- Boys & Girls Club of Central Virginia – \$10,000** – To support Triple Play: A Game Plan for Mind, Body & Soul, through participation in physical activities, games, cooking and nutrition, sports leagues and programs that promote social and emotional wellness for youth in Madison and Orange counties
- Culpeper Mid-Day Lions Club – \$10,000** – To support diabetes screening and education
- Culpeper Winter Heat Shelter – \$5,000** – To provide removable prosthetic dental devices (dentures and partials) for homeless clients
- Friends of the Culpeper Library – \$10,000** – To pro-

vide assistance with access to online training, computers for resume writing, and job applications for re-entry persons

- Hero's Bridge – \$10,000** – To establish a Battle Buddy Community Health Worker program to support elderly veterans in Culpeper County with a variety of needs including home safety, pet therapy and emergency funding for basic needs
- Lake of the Woods Fire & Rescue Company – \$10,000** – To update Heavy Rescue Response Equipment to support accident scene safety by LOTW Fire & Rescue Company in Orange County
- Orange County Free Clinic – \$10,000** – To provide dental care vouchers for patients needing emergency surgical & non-surgical dental extractions and tooth fillings
- Piedmont Regional Dental Clinic – \$10,000** – To provide oral health care for Winter Heat Shelter clients
- RAPPU, INC. – \$10,000** – To offer tuition assistance in the healthcare field for Culpeper, Orange & Madison residents
- Reva Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department – \$7,809** – To support injury prevention during patient handling
- Services to Abused Families (SAFE) – \$10,000** – To support renovations and additional beds with new mattresses at Christine's Place for Culpeper, Madison and Orange families in shelter
- Sex, Drugs & God – \$7,500** – To support Culpeper Young Adult Recovery Network (Culpeper YARN), an open discussion-based format with additional support through a technology component.



2019 Health Living Grant recipients Reva Volunteer Fire & Rescue purchased and received training for use of a HoverJack® and HoverMatt® that support safe lifting and moving of patients.

Photo by – Alecia Hamm, Reva Volunteer Fire & Rescue

Culpeper Wellness Foundation
311 S. East Street, Suite 100
Culpeper, VA 22701
Main office: (540) 431-2397
kboushie@culpeperwellness.org
culpeperwellnessfoundation.org

Culpeper County Sheriff Scott Jenkins



restrictions. "Red Flag" laws without due process will create enormous conflict as well. America has more guns than citizens and murder has long been illegal. At best, the proposed gun restrictions will disarm or handicap our law-abiding in their defense and possibly cause a criminal to choose another tool for evil. I'd like to thank our Board of Supervisors for their resolution of support of our citizens' natural right to self-defense as protected by our Constitution. My office will always encourage and support our citizens in firearms training, concealed carry permits, and the ability to defend themselves and their families.

Culpeper County Sheriff, **Scott Jenkins**, has received national attention through various media outlets due to his stance on Second Amendment rights. "Every Sheriff and Commonwealth Attorney in Virginia will see the consequences if our General Assembly passes further unnecessary gun

I remain very optimistic that our General Assembly will not pass the proposed bills. Obviously, if passed, there are many of us willing to challenge these laws through the courts. In addition, if necessary, I plan to properly screen and deputize thousands of our law-abiding citizens to protect their constitutional right to own firearms."
-Sheriff Scott Jenkins

"A militia, when properly formed, are in fact the people themselves...and include all men capable of bearing arms." (1788)
-Richard Henry Lee

Law Enforcement vs Teachers Charity Basketball Game

The 8th Annual Culpeper County Sheriff's Office Charity Basketball Game will take place on **Saturday, March 21st, 2020 at 6 p.m.** and will be located at Culpeper County High School. Please come out and join us for a good cause as all proceeds go to the Culpeper County Sheriff's Office Youth Sports Camps.

Volunteers Needed - Culpeper County Volunteer Fire & Rescue

The Culpeper County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Departments are looking for volunteers.

This can include rewarding community service in the following volunteer capacities: Firefighter, EMT, Fundraising, Community Education, and Auxiliary Department Support.

What does it take to be a volunteer?

Caring, Compassion, Commitment, Courage, Dedication, Empathy, Family Honor, Integrity, Kindness and Love.

Age requirements are 16 – 17 years old for Junior or 18 and above for Senior members.

There is also a need for retired citizens who want to learn new skills, have a desire to serve and are available during the day.

Benefits include; Free training, uniforms and turnout gear, life insurance, workmen’s compensation and possible tax relief for active members.

If you have as little as twelve to twenty-four hours a month to help your community, we have a place for you!

Just reach out to your local company for more information.

- Brandy Station Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.
www.bsvfd.com 540-825-1555
- Culpeper County Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.
www.culpeperfire.com 540-825-8777
- Culpeper County Rescue Squad, Inc.
www.culpeperrescue.org 540-825-2247
- Little Fork Volunteer Fire & Rescue, Inc.
www.littleforkvfr.org 540-937-7717
- Rapidan Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
www.rapidanfire.com 540-672-5744
- Reva Volunteer Fire and Rescue, Inc.
www.reva16.org 540-547-3747
- Richardsville Volunteer Fire & Rescue, Inc.
www.richardsvillefireandrescue.org 540-399-1890
- Salem Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
www.salemvfd.org 540-825-9112



Spotlight on Brandy Station Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

The Brandy Station Volunteer Fire Department is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and an all-volunteer Fire Department. It is located on the eastern side of Culpeper County, Virginia. The rural community that the Department proudly serves and protects today, is largely agricultural and residential

In 1952, Brandy Station Volunteer Fire Department was established with the assistance of our community members. The Christ Episcopal Church donated the land for the building site and building was completed without any tax revenue. Within the same year, the building dedication was led by Giles H. Miller, Jr. as the Master of Ceremonies and the late Admiral Lewis L. Strauss of Brandy Rock Farm, as the guest speaker. The original building continues to be utilized today as the department’s community “Heritage” Hall. This Hall is utilized by community citizens as a community banquet hall, which holds approximately 300 people and is named “Charter Hall” in honor and recognition of the men and women who were responsible for the original charter. This building serves as a polling site for the Stevensburg District during the annual local, State and National elections.

Volunteer personnel currently respond to the building to answer emergency calls from a home response program, when dispatched by the Culpeper County Emergency Dispatch Center. The Department’s average response time for 2019 was five minutes. During the 2019 calendar year, the Department logged 581 emergency and 476 non-emergency calls, a total of 1,057 total calls and 16,100-man hours.

The most devastating call that the Department responded to in 2019 was a fire in Shiloh Baptist Church, which resulted in a total loss of structure. One firefighter was injured during this call for service, but has since healed,

and is back to full duty volunteering.

Volunteers of the Department have a strong desire to help people in our community in the event of an emergency, continuing a long-standing tradition of neighbors helping neighbors. The Department carries a community Insurance Services Office (ISO) classification of Class 05/5Y. This translates to lower property insurance rates for County residents. In addition to fire protection, the Department operates an Emergency Medical Service (EMS) First Responder Program which was implemented on July 11, 1989 and also provides the only equipped and trained ice rescue team in the area.

During 2017, the Department completed its Community Fire Prevention Safety Outreach Program with local churches and public elementary schools, with approximately 400 kids in attendance. Additionally, the Department participates annually with the school administration in performing a mock DUI car accident demonstration to educate approximately 800 high school students on the importance of creating a safe prom event and showing possible outcomes of drinking and driving. The Department also provides emergency coverage for the Culpeper County High School graduation ceremony, and sponsors the annual Culpeper Soap Box Derby and the Culpeper Community Christmas Gift Basket Program, and participates in multiple community parades.

In 2019, the Department purchased a 2018 Smeal Fire Engine, costing \$635,000. This replaced the 26-year-old International. The Department continues to raise funds to assist in paying off the loan debt. The Department also purchased a 2018 Chevy



Tahoe for a command unit with a total cost of \$51,957.

Revenue is generated through fundrais-

ing events, which include weekly Bingo, Annual Fair, Lawn & Garden Tractor Pull, Car Show, banquet hall rentals, community donations and dinners catered by the Auxiliary. The following events are open to the public for 2020:

- Weekly Bingo – Every Saturday starting at 7 p.m. (program includes new progressive bingo games)
- February 28, 2020 – Spaghetti Dinner starting at 5 p.m.
- May 8, 2020 – Chicken Dinner starting at 5 p.m.
- August 5-8, 2020 – Fair and Parade
- October 24, 2020 – Car Show
- December 4, 2020 – Christmas Tree Lighting

We look forward to seeing you at these events and thank you for your continued support.

The Department has many positions available for individuals who would like to become a volunteer. Membership categories include: Operational, Administrative, Support, Junior member, Auxiliary member. To learn how you can enrich your life and maybe save someone else’s, visit our web page at www.BSVFD.com or like us on Facebook.





Conservation District Recognizes Farm and Educators

The Conservation Awards dinner was held in Culpeper on Thursday November 7, 2019. The annual event honors residents who have demonstrated leadership in the stewardship of local soil and water resources. The awards presented were Educator of the Year, Forest Stewardship, Wildlife, Clean Water Farm Awards in each of the District's 5 member counties and Conservationist of the Year.

The Clean Water Farm Award Program recognizes farms in the Commonwealth that utilize practices designed to protect water quality and soil resources.

The 2019 Culpeper County Clean Water Farm Award was given to **William A. Spillman, III of Spillman Farm**. The farm is located in Brandy Station, Virginia and encompasses over 500 acres of mostly open pasture and is home to well over 200 cow/calf pairs. The location of Mr. Spillman's farm is historically important, as it was part of the much larger battlefield where the Battle of Brandy Station occurred in 1863. The land has remained undeveloped and much like it was over 150 years ago.

Fencing was installed on the northern half of the farm that protects 6,500 feet of stream bank on a tributary of Ruffans Run, which drains to the Rappahannock River. This created five acres of mostly herbaceous riparian buffer. Three watering troughs were installed for the cattle and interior subdivision fence created four pastures where there were once only two. An existing well that supplied a tenant house was used to supply the water troughs.

The second phase of the project on the southern half of the farm included 6,400 feet of stream bank exclusion, which includes a pond that is the headwaters of Hubbard Run, another tributary of the Rappahannock River. Over eight acres of riparian buffer were created by installing the stream exclusion fencing. A spring development, which captured several springs, supplies two concrete watering troughs for the cattle. The springs produced so much water in 2018 that the overflow at the spring collection box had to be enlarged to handle the flow of water. Some minor reconfiguration of existing fences occurred to make the pastures more functional for the flow of the livestock in the rotational grazing system.

The 2019 Rappahannock River Basin Award was given to **Rillhurst Farm** which is located off Route 522 just north of the Town of Culpeper. The family has worked to protect several tributaries of Mountain Run, which is the water supply for the Town of Culpeper. The brood cow herd is 155 head of Angus cattle. Hay production is limited to 80 acres. The farm focuses on cool season grass production. During growing seasons, the cattle are moved weekly between 29 pastures. Over 35,200 feet of stream bank and a large lake have been protected by stream exclusion fencing. The buffers are a minimum of 50 feet on both sides of the stream and total just under 80 acres. The cattle drink from 22 pressurized water troughs, which are fed by two wells and 19,000 feet of pipeline.

The 2019 Conservation Educator of the Year Award was given to the **Old Rag Master Naturalists**, a group of volunteers in Culpeper, Fauquier, Greene, Madison, Orange and Rappahannock Counties. Old Rag Master Naturalists was formed in 2007 and currently has over 100 active members. Members of the group take a basic training course of lectures and field trips. To remain active they have to complete a minimum number of continuing education and volunteer hours. The robust CSWCD Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience (MWEE) program would not be possible without the volunteers of the Old Rag Master Naturalists. In particular, Bill Clark and Ken Cranston were recognized at the banquet. They have volunteered more than 300 hours with CSWCD.



Master Naturalists Ken Cranston & Bill Clark, CSWCD Chair Lynn Graves and CSWCD Education/Information Specialist Stephanie DeNicola

Do you know a young person who loves the outdoors? Culpeper Soil & Water offers scholarships to two summer camps. Camp Woods and Wildlife is held in June at the Holiday Lake 4-H Center. Youth Conservation Camp is held in July at Virginia Tech. Contact Stephanie DeNicola for more information at stephanied@culpeperswcd.org.

The District also offers college scholarships to students dedicated to natural resource conservation. Contact Stephanie DeNicola for more information at stephanied@culpeperswcd.org.

Annual Woods & Wildlife Conference will be held Saturday February 29, 2020 at the Daniel Technology Center! Contact Adam Downing at 540-948-6881 or adowning@vt.edu for more information.

Culpeper County is represented on the Culpeper Soil & Water Conservation District Board by Directors Andrew Campbell and Thomas O'Halloran and Associate Director Laura Campbell.

For more information about lawn care, best management practices, reporting pollution, moving dirt and other issues regarding soil and water conservation please contact Stephanie Rose DeNicola, Communications Specialist of Culpeper Soil & Water Conservation District at (540) 825-8591.

NEELY, HOLMES APPOINTED TO BOARD

With the new year, the Electoral Board welcomed one new member and received welcomed news that a long-time veteran of Culpeper elections had been reappointed.

Tracy Neely was appointed January 1 to fill a vacancy created by the retirement of former Chair Janet Huss. Later in the month, James Holmes was reappointed to another term.

"We're excited to welcome Ms. Neely to the Board. She brings three years of voting precinct experience which will be helpful in meeting our goals of supporting voters on Election Day and providing the resources our Officers need to do their jobs effectively," said Director of Elections James Clements.

"Mr. Holmes has been an asset to our office and to the entire Virginia elections community since he returned to the Board in 2016," Clements said. "In his decades of service, he has facilitated more changes to the way the Commonwealth runs elections than you can imagine. Election laws change every year and you need steady hands like Mr. Holmes, and Board Secretary Clive Richmond, to navigate through them."

While roles and responsibilities of the



Tracy Neely and James Holmes bring enthusiasm and experience to the Culpeper County Electoral Board.

Electoral Board have changed over the years, their primary role is to conduct elections including: appointing and supporting election officers, certifying election results, and ensuring compliance with State and Federal election laws.

Neely was enthusiastic to begin new her role. "I'm happy to be serving the community as an Election Board member," she said. Mr. Holmes thanked Huss for her decade of service to the Board. She will be missed.

WE NEED YOU

BECOME AN ELECTION OFFICER

Culpeper County will need more than 100 Election Officers this year. Officers must be willing to attend training, work a 15-hour day on Election Day, and enjoy public service.

If you're interested, please contact our office, visit our website:

voteinculpeper.info/become-officer-election/

Or scan the following code:



Planning to Vote in November? Take These Simple Steps Today

The calendar may still say spring, but in the Election world all eyes are on November. We're already planning for the Presidential Election when we expect to see the highest turnout in a generation.

Are you planning to be one of those voters? If so, is there anything you can do today to ensure the process is a smooth one? The simple answer is yes.

If you're a new voter, or new to Culpeper County, it couldn't be simpler to register. Use our website: www.voteinculpeper.info, which will

direct you to the State's Citizen Portal system. Once there, you'll use your social security number and driver's license to complete the application online.

Within a day your application will be processed by our office and in a few weeks you'll receive a confirmation notice in the mail. *(Even before you receive the notice you can use the same system to check on the status of your application.)*

But what if you don't need to register or make a change to your name/address?

You can still use the same system to confirm your voter information and I encourage you to do so. Like all computer databases, the statewide system we use is only as good as the data it contains. Is your name misspelled? Is your house number off by a digit? For almost every voter the information will be accurate; with a few minutes of your time you can be sure you're one of them.

151 N. Main St. Ste. 301, 2nd floor, Culpeper VA 22701
540-825-0652 - registrar@culpepercounty.gov

M-F 8:30a to 4:30p
<https://www.voteinculpeper.info>

COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE—Terry L. Yowell



FILING DEADLINES

There are a number of important filing deadlines for tax year 2020:

Business Personal Property and Machinery & Tools	-	May 1
Military (non-Virginia resident) Leave and Earnings Statement (month of January)	-	May 1
Virginia Income Tax (2019 tax year)	-	May 1
International Fuel Tax Act (IFTA) documentation (all 4 quarters for 2019)	-	May 1

Virginia 2020 Estimated Income Tax quarterly payment vouchers:* #1 May 1 #2 June 15 #3 September 15 #4 January 15, 2021

* First payment is payable to the Culpeper County Treasurer but is to be delivered/sent to the Commissioner of Revenue’s Office. Any subsequent payments are payable to the Culpeper County Treasurer and are to be delivered/sent to the Treasurer’s Office.

PERSONAL PROPERTY - WHO MUST FILE AND WHEN?

Taxpayers who own motor vehicles, campers, boats, trailers, aircraft or manufactured homes subject to taxation by Culpeper County as of January 1st and who have previously registered such property with the Commissioner’s Office, are no longer required to file annually.

Taxpayers must file a new or amended personal property registration form within 60 days of when any of the following events occur:

1. New purchases, acquisitions and/or property moved into the Town/County
 2. Disposition of property and/or property moved out of the Town/County*
 3. Change in name or address of the person(s) owning or leasing property
 4. Change in the use of a motor vehicle from personal to business use or vice versa
 5. Any event or occurrence which causes a motor vehicle, camper, boat, trailer, aircraft or manufactured home to acquire or lose situs for taxation.
 6. Any other changes affecting the assessment or levy of personal property tax on the motor vehicle, camper, boat, trailer, aircraft or manufactured home for which a return was previously filed.
- * Residents are reminded that State law requires timely notification of vehicle, camper, boat, trailer, aircraft or manufactured home disposition be made to the proper registration agency. It is your responsibility to take care of these matters as a statutory tax liability may occur if sufficient documentation is not available to give proof of disposition.

Personal Property Registration forms may be obtained by contacting the Commissioner of the Revenue’s Office or online at web.culpepercounty.gov and click on the Commissioner of the Revenue page under Government then Constitutional Officers.

BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY AND MACHINERY & TOOLS - WHEN TO FILE?

In order to avoid the late filing penalty of 10% of the tax due, owners of property employed in a trade, business or in manufacturing must report property owned as of January 1 to the Commissioner of the Revenue by May 1.

When filing your return, you must include an itemized list of property giving the description, date acquired and the original acquisition cost. A fair and equitable assessment can only be applied if you provide the necessary information to us.

If you need help with this request, please contact me. If you need on-site assistance, please contact me. If you need my help in arriving at a fair market value because you no longer have the original acquisition information OR you converted once personal property to use in a trade or business, please contact me. If you are not sure that the good or service you provide is considered acting in a trade or business, please contact me. At any time you have any questions, please contact me.

Commissioner of the Revenue Contact Information			
Mail to: P O Box 1807 Culpeper VA 22701	Visit: 151 N Main Street Culpeper VA 22701	Telephone: 540-727-3443 Fax: 540-727-3472	Email: tyowell@culpepercounty.gov Online: web.culpepercounty.gov

Culpeper County Commissioner of the Revenue’s Office achieves Accreditation



Culpeper County Commissioner of the Revenue Terry Yowell, was recently honored at the 100th Annual Conference of the Commissioners of the Revenue Association of Virginia, by becoming one of the first localities in the Commonwealth to achieve office accreditation.

Accreditation is awarded only to offices which have met the rigorous standards set forth by the Commissioner’s Association. The twelve standards set forth by the Association include education requirements for the Commissioner and staff, customer service, personnel and ethics policies as well as assessment methodology.

Each office receiving accreditation has undergone an audit to ensure compliance and will be required to demonstrate annually that they continue to meet these standards.

“Commissioner Yowell has demonstrated a commitment to Culpeper County and to good governance. This is an honor that was earned through hard work and leadership. It signifies

that the Culpeper County’s Commissioner of the Revenue office has met the highest standards of professionalism as set forth by the Commissioners of the Revenue Association of Virginia,” stated The Honorable Thomas Blackwell, 2019-2020 President of the Association.


“The Commissioners of the Revenue Association of Virginia has always been at the forefront in seeking to improve professional skills and overall performance for the good of the Commonwealth and it’s localities,” Blackwell added. “In this, our centennial year, commissioners from around the state have worked to attain Office Accreditation in order to ensure greater accountability and increased uniformity with respect to office procedures for all our taxpayers.”

The Association launched a Career Development program in 2000 to encourage professionalism and promote consistency in the administration of

assessment throughout the Commonwealth. In addition to Commissioner Yowell, four out of seven full time staff have achieved Master Deputy designation and three are currently working on this certification. “I am so proud of our staff, and this achievement demonstrates our mission to provide unparalleled customer service to our taxpayers, our commitment to provide accurate, fair and equitable assessments and our determination to make sure no one pays any more than their share of the tax burden,” said Yowell.

Commissioner of the Revenue
540-727-3443
tyowell@culpepercounty.gov

Commonwealth’s Attorney Paul Walther



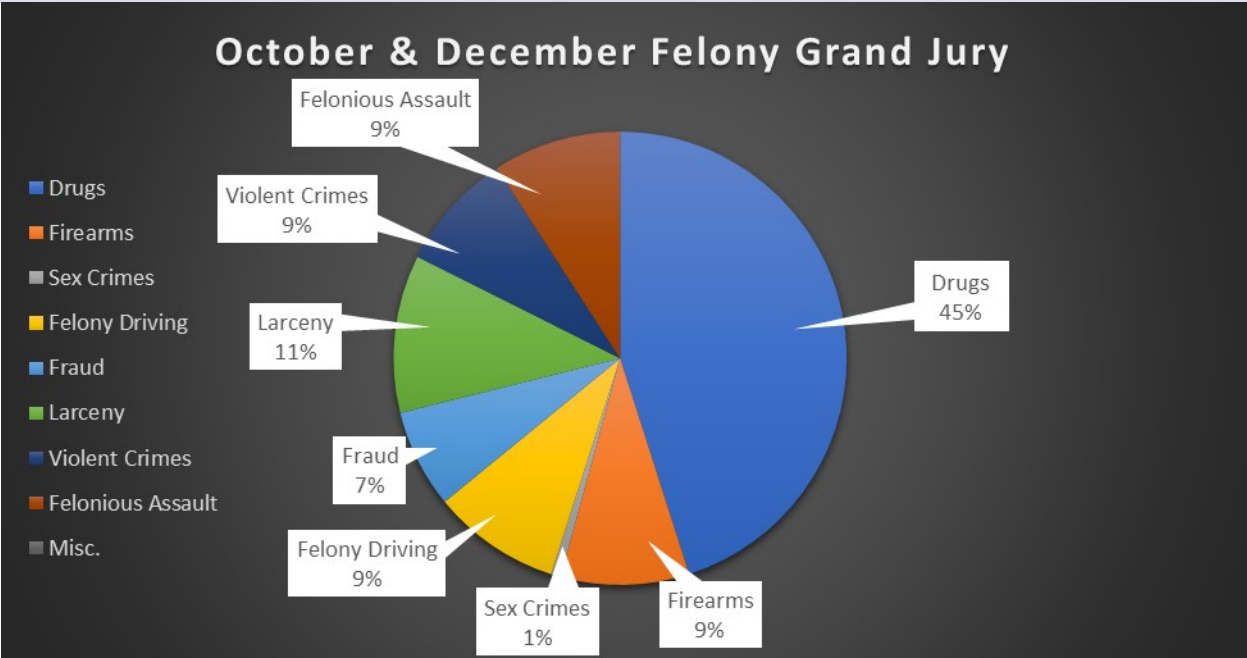
Employee Spotlight

Wenonah Petersen has been an Assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney since 2017. She is a consummate professional with a diverse background that makes her relatable and able to evaluate cases from a range of perspectives. Previously an Associate at Gayheart & Willis, Wenonah also represented the Department of Social Services in multiple jurisdictions and served as a Guardian *ad Litem* for children.

Wenonah states, “My job is challenging but it is always interesting, and I get to work with an amazing team of people - my colleagues, defense counsel, court staff, law enforcement, probation officers - they all make Culpeper a great place to be. I've been in this office for over two years, and I still wake up excited to go to work every day.”

Both an advocate in the courtroom as well as in her community, Wenonah is involved in multiple local charitable organizations. She serves as a board member on the Literacy Council and the Germanna Educational Foundation, and she chairs the Scholarship Monte Carlo committee, which hosts the annual fundraiser to benefit students facing financial hardships. She is also active in the Culpeper Minutemen chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

October & December Felony Grand Jury



Category	Percentage
Drugs	45%
Larceny	11%
Felony Driving	9%
Violent Crimes	9%
Felonious Assault	9%
Firearms	9%
Fraud	7%
Sex Crimes	1%
Misc.	-

Notable Concluded Cases of This Quarter

- On March 9, 2019, three juveniles and two young adults were involved in a Robbery with a firearm at the Quality Inn Hotel stealing \$1200.00 dollars from two individuals. The three juveniles were convicted of Robbery and sentenced to the Department of Juvenile Justice as serious offenders, where they will remain until they are 21 years of age. One adult was convicted and sentenced on November 12, 2019, and is serving his sentence in the Department of Corrections Youthful Offender Program. The other adult has been convicted and is awaiting sentencing as of the writing of this article.
- Following a long-term narcotics investigation between the Culpeper Sheriff’s Office, federal authorities and the Office of the Commonwealth’s Attorney, a 59-year-old male was arrested after the execution of a search warrant on April 11, 2019. He was charged with four counts of Distribution of a Schedule I/II Controlled Substance, 3rd or subsequent offense. After a bench trial, on October 30, 2019, the defendant was found guilty of each offense and sentenced to 40 years with 25 years suspended on each offense, for a total active sentence of 60 years

Commonwealth’s Attorney Goals— Every four years, Constitutional Officers are elected by the citizens of respective jurisdictions, and this past November, I was re-elected and am serving my second term as your Commonwealth’s Attorney. I am honored to be able to continue serving the citizens of Culpeper, and I hope that my second term will have as great a success, as did my first. With the start of my second term on January 1, 2020, it is a time for me to reflect on my first four years in office and the goals for my next four.

Anyone who has ever dealt with the legal system, knows that it is a joint effort by a series of agencies. My first goal is to continue to work hand-in-hand with the Culpeper Sheriff’s Office, Culpeper Police Department, Virginia State Police and all other law enforcement agencies that serve Culpeper County. Without a close relationship with law enforcement, few cases would be successful in the courtroom. By continuing our strong working relationship, I hope to continue to be able to hold those responsible for their action in Court.

In addition to law enforcement, I want my office to continue to use the Victim Witness Office, led by Mark Nowacki, to help victims and survivors in their times of need. That office is a great resource, and I will continue to strive to work as closely with them as possible. They truly are able to give a voice to the victims and their families by providing a much needed support system.

My next goal is to continue to provide knowledgeable and competent service for the citizens of Culpeper County. The attorneys in my office will continue to attend legal update courses, as well as other trainings throughout the Commonwealth. The team that I have assembled have the knowledge, ability, and the desire to do the hard work that is required to prosecute cases successfully. It is a pleasure to be able to work with all of the attorneys and staff every day.

Finally, my main goal over the next four years is to help combat the opioid and other drug epidemic that we are facing not only as a county but as a state. Too many lives are lost and others affected by drugs. Many hours have already been spent on the creation of a Drug Court, and hopefully in the next year and a half, we will have our first applicants. While I know that there is no cure for the problem, I intend to do everything in my power to help those in need.

Culpeper County Board of Supervisors

Culpeper Quarterly

A quarterly publication



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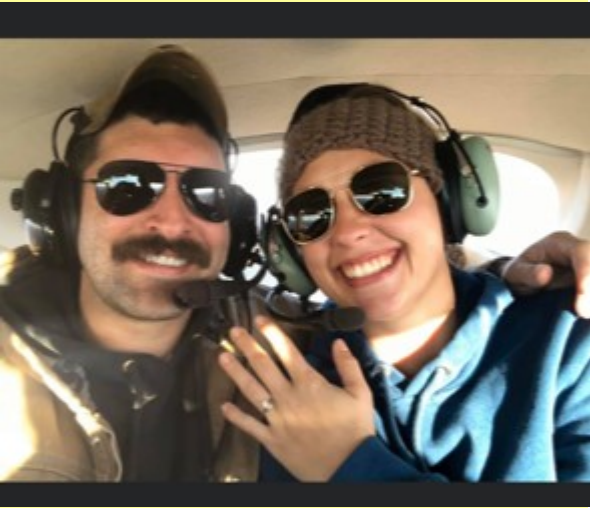
dhoffman@culpepercounty.gov

Airport Fly-bys... *By Tanya Woodward*



Claire Attilis (Bride to Be), Rob Dornbusch (pilot and Airport Ops Mgr), Tim Heard (Airport Line Tech)

Hello Spring! And what does spring make us think about but young love in bloom, diamond rings, bridal showers, weddings and all those wonderful things. What on Earth does this have to do with the airport you ask? Having a unique way to ask your significant other that you want to marry them and hope they agree is as old as time. How did this moment unfold for you? My husband asked me to marry him on Christmas Eve with a beautiful handmade ornament that was also a ring box, in front of a beautiful Christmas tree. Needless to say we will be celebrating 25 years of happily wedded bliss this year and we hope for many more. Maybe you want to add a little more of a thrill to the event. Have you thought about taking him or her up in an airplane and flying over town or the mountains as the sun sets or rises, and pop the question? Well one of our employees did just that and guess what? She said YES! Tim and Claire went up in an airplane to look at their farm from the sky, or at least that is what Claire thought. Claire was excited enough about the flight and didn't even suspect that Tim was going to propose. All of us, including Claire's parents who came out to the Airport to celebrate, were so elated to share in their moment. So if you want a unique way to pop the question, check us out, we might be able to help.



Tim and Claire in the plane after the proposal. Claire displays her new ring.